

REMARKS

The applicants have studied the Office Action dated April 6, 2004. It is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Claims 1 and 32 have been amended, and claims 3, 33 and 38 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Reconsideration and allowance of all of the claims in view of the following remarks are respectfully requested.

The examiner objected to Figures 5, 6 and 7. We are submitting a set of formal drawings showing the correction on Figures 5, 6, and 7.

The Examiner objected to Claim 38. Claim 38 has been canceled.

Claims 1, 2, 5, 7, 13, 32 and 38 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Peter Wendt et al., EP 0463231A1. Claims 8, 9, 11 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Peter Wendt et al., EP 0463231A1. The Examiner stated that claims 3, 4, 6, 10 and 33 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The limitations of claims 3 and 33 have been added to claims 1 and 32, respectively. The applicants thank the Examiner for allowing claims 14-31 and 34-37. Thus, claims 1-37 distinguish over the art of record.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 1, 2, 5, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 32 and 38 should be withdrawn.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge such fees to our Deposit Account No. 17-0026. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37

C.F.R. 1.136 not accounted for, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

By:


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